

Agricultural Adjustment Administration

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BRIEF OUTLINE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM

NORTHEAST REGION

Object -- The primary objects of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program are to preserve and improve soil fertility and promote the economic use of farm land.

Organization -- The program is to be conducted by farmers through State, County, and community committees, assisted by the State Agricultural Extension Services and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Payments -- Two kinds of payments will be made:

(1) SOIL CONSERVING, or Class I, payments for diverting land from soil depleting to soil conserving crops. For diverting land, other than tobacco land, this payment will be at the rate of \$10.00 per acre, scaled up or down as the crop yields on the individual farm compare with average yields for the country, with a limit on the amount of land that can be diverted set at 15 percent of the acreage of soil depleting crops on the farm in 1935. For tobacco, this payment will be at the rate of 4 cents per pound on the average yield of the acreage diverted for Connecticut Valley types and 3 cents per pound for New York and Pennsylvania types of the normal yield per acre for the farm, with a limit on the acreage that can be diverted set at 30 percent of the 1935 base acreage for the farm.

(2) SOIL BUILDING, or Class II, payments. This payment will be made for the planting of soil building crops and the carrying out of soil building practices in 1936 at such rates and for such practices as are recommended by the State Agricultural Conservation Committee and approved by the Secretary of Agriculture, provided that the total amount that will be paid a farmer for planting soil building crops and the carrying out of these practices shall not



exceed an amount equal to the number of acres of soil conserving crops on his farm in 1936 multiplied by \$1.00.

No Contracts To Be Used.-- The program is entirely voluntary. Farmers will not enter into contracts. Payments will be made only after a farmer has satisfied his County Committee that he has met the conditions covering the diversion of land from soil depleting to soil conserving crops or has satisfactorily carried out the soil building practices approved for his State.

The first action for a farmer who wishes to participate in the program is to obtain from his county committee a copy of a work sheet and to fill out and file with the Committee the work sheet showing the crops grown on his farm in 1935. Later in the season he will make out an application blank for payments.

Crop Classification.-- In general, in the Northeastern Section, ~~legumes~~, cultivated crops, small grains when not used as a nurse crop, ~~for~~ canning factory crops and vegetable crops are classified as soil depleting crops, and alfalfa, clover, and hay crops are classified as soil conserving.

Division of Payments.-- In general, the soil conserving payment will be divided between the tenant and the landlord as they divide the principal crop according to their lease, and the soil building payment will be made to the producer who incurs the expense of planting soil building crops or carrying out such practices.